

## **CLAIMS**

- 1. A method for producing a container for holding pressurized fluid, which container comprises a circumferential wall, a base and if desired a top, at least the circumferential wall being made from metal, characterized in that the circumferential wall is produced by hydroforming before the base and if desired the top are attached to the circumferential wall.
- 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the circumferential wall which is to be hydroformed is produced as a tubular blank, preferably as a tailored tabular blank, and more preferably as a tailored tabular blank with sections of different thicknesses.
- 3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, in which the circumferential walls for two or more containers are hydroformed as a single unit.
  - 4. The method as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the circumferential wall, prior to the hydroforming, has a substantially round, oval, triangular, rectangular or square cross section and/or a substantially cylindrical or conical shape.

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- 5. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which the base and/or the top are made from plastics, preferably from a thermoplastic, more preferably from polyethylene.
- 25 6. The method as claimed in claim 5, in which a container is produced with a base and a top made from plastics material, and the base and the top are connected to one another with the aid of a rigid tie rod.
- 7. The method as claimed in claim 6, in which the base, top and tie rod are produced as a single unit.
  - 8. The method as claimed in claim 6 or 7, in which the rigid tie rod is designed to be at least partially hollow, in order to act as a discharge passage for fluid in the container.

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9. Method according to one of the preceding claims, in which the circumferential wall is deformed by hydroforming in such a manner that parts of the circumferential wall can be used as a handle or as an attachment point for a handle

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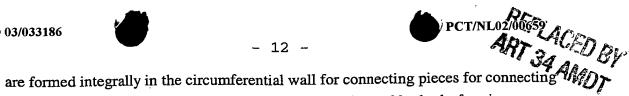
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which is to be attached.

- 10. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which the base and if desired the top are releasably secured to the circumferential wall.
- 11. A container for holding a pressurized fluid, produced using the method as described in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the container has a volume of at least 1 liter and at most 100 liters, preferably a volume of at least 5 liters and more preferably a volume of approximately 30 liters.
- 12. The container as claimed in claim 11, which is able to withstand a maximum operating pressure of 12 bar, preferably a maximum operating pressure of 6 bar.
- 13. Container as claimed in claim 12, in which the circumferential wall has a thickness of between 0.2 and 2.0 mm, preferably between 0.2 and 1.0 mm, depending on the volume of the container.
  - 14. The container as claimed in claim 11, 12 or 13, in which the circumferential wall has a cross section with a dimension of at most 500 mm, preferably at most 400 mm.
    - 15. The container as claimed in one of claims 11-14, which is a beer barrel.
- 16. The container as claimed in one of claims 11-15, which is designed in such a manner that containers stacked on top of one another fit into one another in nesting fashion.
  - 17. The container as claimed in one of claims 11-16, in which marks are incorporated in the circumferential wall, these marks being formed into the circumferential wall by hydroforming, for example a name, a symbol and/or an instruction.
- 18. The container as claimed in one of claims 11-17, in which there are deformations in the circumferential wall in order to reinforce the circumferential wall, which deformations are formed in the circumferential wall by hydroforming, for example reinforcing ridges.
  - 19. The container as claimed in one of claims 11-18, in which attachment points



two or more containers, which attachment points are formed by hydroforming.

- The container as claimed in one of claims 11-19, which is provided with a 20. base and a top made from plastics material, which base and top are preferably 5 connected to one another by a rigid tie rod.
  - The container as claimed in one of claims 11-20, which is suitable for single 21. use.